



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL VEHICLE AND FUEL EMISSIONS LABORATORY
2565 PLYMOUTH ROAD
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48105-2498

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

DEC 21 2000

Dear Stakeholder:

There has been substantial, recent interest on the part of states and others in quantifying the effects of various diesel fuel parameters on emissions to evaluate these as emission reduction strategies. In addition, there have been a number of estimates put forth that in some cases project significant emissions benefits for controlling such parameters as cetane and aromatics levels in diesel fuel. We have concerns with respect to the accuracy, magnitude, and consistency of these projections. Consequently we are preparing to conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of all pertinent, available data.

This analysis will be performed over a six-month period, during which there will be time allotted for public participation, with the culmination of a final report in mid-May. The report will address the effects of diesel fuel properties such as cetane, aromatics, T90, and density on emissions from various types of diesel engines.

We will update all interested stakeholders as we proceed and look forward to working with each of you to achieve our goal. We would appreciate it if you would provide us with a point of contact if you are interested in participating or being updated on our progress. Please contact Megan Beardsley (Beardsley.Megan@epa.gov, (734) 214-4848) or Cleophas Jackson (Jackson.Cleophas@epa.gov, (734) 214-4824) if you have questions or would like to request further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Glenn A. France" followed by a flourish.

Chester J. France, Director
Assessment and Standards Division